Annex IV: Monitoring of child labour

During the implementation of this programmes, progress and impact monitoring will be conducted at various levels. The monitoring of prevention programmes will be achieved through attitudinal surveys to track changes in community awareness and opinion and administrative monitoring of police (i.e. changed perception of the problem by the communities, an increase in the number of cases reported, an increased participation of the police in detecting and preventing the practice). Community based monitoring systems will be strengthened or established as appropriate. The main activities of the community watch system are: (i) mobilizing action to prevent children from being trafficked and involvement of the community in rehabilitation efforts; (ii) monitoring the status and progress of the project, in particular the impact and benefits as perceived by the local communities. Information which is gathered by this community based monitoring system will be provided to the IPEC National Steering Committees. They can be used by the communities themselves, shared with the police and with any other relevant partners involved in the combat against child trafficking.

The monitoring of the impact of the programme on children directly assisted will be easier. Apart from the statutory monitoring by the Project Coordinator - conducted through the review of four monthly progress reports and regular field visits- a consolidated reporting system to track the impact of the action programmes on the children and their families will be established. This reporting system will include a detailed profile of each enrolled child and his/her family at the day of joining the programme and will be updated on a regular basis. It will be located within the regional coordination in Abidjan and updated by the project staff. Towards the end of the programme, the system could be handed over to a selected regional stucture (e.g. the ECOWAS or the OAU) to ensure continuity of this activity. This arrangement will be worked out over the duration of the project.

In action programmes dealing with victims (or those at risk) of trafficking such type of reporting system is a common practice. Children targeted by direct rehabilitation programmes have been rescued from trafficking or intercepted before ending up in such a situation. The rehabilitation of the child victims requires institutional care and support services to avoid further trauma. This brings with it a high level of responsibility and the process of reintegrating these children back in their communities of origin is carefully monitored and documented to avoid that children fall prey to the same practice again. The information collected under individual action programmes could be used for further planning.